



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Committee Bill No. 5142

LCO No. 2503

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING AN INCREASE TO THE UNEARNED INCOME
DISREGARD FOR STATE SUPPLEMENT RECIPIENTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-106 of the general statutes, as amended by
2 section 56 of public act 01-2 of the June special session and section 129
3 of public act 01-9 of the June special session, is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2002*):

5 (a) On July 1, 1985, the Commissioner of Social Services shall
6 increase the adult payment standards for the state supplement to the
7 federal Supplemental Security Income Program by four and
8 three-tenths per cent over the standards for the fiscal year ending June
9 30, 1985, provided the commissioner shall apply the appropriate
10 disregards. Notwithstanding the provisions of any regulation to the
11 contrary, effective July 1, 1994, the commissioner shall reduce the
12 appropriate unearned income disregard for recipients of the state
13 supplement to the federal Supplemental Security Income Program by
14 seven per cent, provided if sufficient funds are available within
15 accounts in the Department of Social Services and are transferred to
16 the old age assistance account, the aid to the blind account and the aid

17 to the disabled account, the commissioner shall increase the unearned
18 income disregard for recipients of the state supplement to the federal
19 Supplemental Security Income Program to a level not to exceed that in
20 effect on June 30, 1994. On July 1, 2002, and annually thereafter, the
21 Commissioner of Social Services shall increase the unearned income
22 disregard for recipients of the state supplement to the federal
23 Supplemental Security Income Program by the percentage increase, if
24 any, in the most recent calendar year average in the consumer price
25 index for urban consumers over the average for the previous calendar
26 year. On July 1, 1989, and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of
27 Social Services shall increase the adult payment standards over those
28 of the previous fiscal year for the state supplement to the federal
29 Supplemental Security Income Program by the percentage increase, if
30 any, in the most recent calendar year average in the consumer price
31 index for urban consumers over the average for the previous calendar
32 year, provided the annual increase, if any, shall not exceed five per
33 cent, except that the adult payment standards for the fiscal years
34 ending June 30, 1993, June 30, 1994, June 30, 1995, June 30, 1996, June
35 30, 1997, June 30, 1998, June 30, 1999, June 30, 2000, June 30, 2001, June
36 30, 2002, and June 30, 2003, shall not be increased. Effective October 1,
37 1991, the coverage of excess utility costs for recipients of the state
38 supplement to the federal Supplemental Security Income Program is
39 eliminated.

40 (b) Effective July 1, 1998, the Commissioner of Social Services shall
41 provide a state supplement payment for recipients of Medicaid and the
42 federal supplemental security income program who reside in long-
43 term care facilities sufficient to increase their personal needs allowance
44 to fifty dollars per month. Such state supplement payment shall be
45 made to the long-term care facility to be deposited into the personal
46 fund account of each such recipient. Effective July 1, 1999, and
47 annually thereafter, the commissioner shall increase such allowance to
48 reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security income, if any.
49 For the purposes of this subsection, "long-term care facility" means a
50 licensed chronic and convalescent nursing home, a chronic disease

- 51 hospital, a rest home with nursing supervision, an intermediate care
52 facility for the mentally retarded or a state humane institution.

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| This act shall take effect as follows: | |
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2002</i> |

HS *Joint Favorable*